U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employees' Compensation Appeals Board

In the Matter of JOSEPH R. TANKERSLEY <u>and</u> DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, MINE SAFETY & HEALTH ADMINISTRATION, Norton, Va.

Docket No. 97-438; Submitted on the Record; Issued August 13, 1998

DECISION and **ORDER**

Before GEORGE E. RIVERS, DAVID S. GERSON, WILLIE T.C. THOMAS

The issue is whether appellant sustained a pulmonary condition causally related to his federal employment.

The Board has given careful consideration to the issue involved, the contentions of appellant on appeal and the entire case record. The Board finds that the August 2, 1996 decision of the hearing representative of the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs is in accordance with the facts and law in this case and hereby adopts the findings and conclusions of the hearing representative.

The decision of the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs dated August 2, 1996 is hereby affirmed.

Dated, Washington, D.C. August 13, 1998

> George E. Rivers Member

David S. Gerson Member

Willie T.C. Thomas Alternate Member